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**WHYY TO CLOSE SECOND SEASON OF *ON CANVAS* PERFORMING ARTS SERIES
WITH THREE NEW EPISODES AND REBROADCASTS JUNE 10 TO AUGUST 30**

*New Episodes to Spotlight BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet,
Extra Golden and Turtle Island Quartet*

PHILADELPHIA, May 29, 2009 — WHYY continues its second season of *On Canvas*, a weekly performing-arts series that explores Greater Philadelphia's rich, diverse cultural arts scene, with **BeauSoleil** on June 10 at Sellersville Theater 1894. Subsequent episodes will feature **Extra Golden** on June 17 at Johnny Brenda's and **Turtle Island Quartet** on June 24 at Montgomery County Community College.

On Canvas episodes premiere on WHYY-TV at 8 p.m. Wednesdays, and are rebroadcast at 2 p.m. Sundays. Episodes are also broadcast on WHYY's Y Arts Channel (12.2) at 9 p.m. Wednesdays, 10 p.m. Thursdays, 11 p.m. Fridays, 2 p.m. Sundays, 7 p.m. Mondays and 8 p.m. Tuesdays following the premiere broadcast on WHYY-TV. Additionally, episodes are available on Comcast's on-demand service.

BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet at Sellersville Theater 1894, 8 p.m. June 10

BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet, a 10-time-nominated and Grammy Award-winning sextet from Lafayette, La., is known for serving up delectable Cajun music since 1975. Their palate — extending to zydeco, New Orleans jazz, Tex-Mex, country, blues and other styles — has won over a worldwide following over the course of releasing 29 records.

BeauSoleil's name is a tribute to Joseph Broussard dit Beausoleil, leader of the Acadian resistance to British deportation efforts beginning in 1755. The band has been featured on *Austin City Limits* and *Late Night With Conan O'Brien*, and its music has been part of soundtracks such as *The Big Easy* and *Passion Fish*.

BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet, whose latest Grammy Award win was in 2009 for "Best Zydeco or Cajun Music Album" with its *Live From the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival*, was recorded at Sellersville Theater 1894 in upper Bucks County, Pa.

Extra Golden at Johnny Brenda's, 8 p.m. June 17

Extra Golden's members are natives of the United States and Kenya. Ian Eagleson, Otieno Jagwasi, Alex Minoff and Onyango Wuod Omari recorded the bulk of the group's



debut, *Ok-Oyot System*, in 2004 in a restaurant. Jagwasi died a year later, and the record was released to wide acclaim in 2006.

With the addition of Jagwasi's brother, Onyango, Extra Golden soldiered on and released *Hera Ma Nono* after recording it in the Poconos in 2007 and *Thank You Very Quickly* this year. The records blend the buoyant, bouncy sounds of benga, a genre of Kenyan music that features African guitar stylings and American-style rock 'n' roll, with bilingual lyrics.

Extra Golden was recorded at Johnny Brenda's in Philadelphia's Fishtown neighborhood.

Turtle Island Quartet at Montgomery County Community College, 8 p.m. June 24

"It must have been like this when Beethoven was taking Vienna by storm — the exhilaration of seeing the future of classical music unfold before your eyes and ears."
— *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

With a name derived from creation mythology found in Native American folklore, Turtle Island Quartet has been creating chic and daring trends in chamber music for string instruments since 1985. Winner of the 2006 and 2008 Grammy Awards for Best Classical Crossover Album, Turtle Island Quartet embodies the classical quartet aesthetic with contemporary American musical styles.

Turtle Island Quartet — featuring David Balakrishnan (violin), Jeremy Kittel (viola), Mark Summer (cello) and Mads Tolling (violin) — has helped revive improvisational and compositional chamber traditions that have not been explored for almost two centuries. The group enjoys extraordinary international demand, predominantly in Europe. Turtle Island Quartet was recorded performing selections from American jazz music at Montgomery County Community College in Blue Bell, Pa.

Trudi Brown serves as executive producer for *On Canvas*; Hugh Haynie, producer; and Heidi Saman, associate producer. Pete Scaffidi serves as editor and technical director. Part of WHYY's wide variety of community programming, *On Canvas* serves as a window to artists' stories, combining interviews with performances captured live at venues throughout Greater Philadelphia.

On Canvas is made possible through the extraordinary generosity of an anonymous family of donors and the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation. For more information, visit www.whyy.org/oncanvas.

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